

America's

FUTURE

A Weekly Review of News, Books and Public Affairs

Volume 3

August 4, 1961

Number 31

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WAR ON THE MILITARY?

Using the American military services as an arm of a political administration is bad at any time, but at this particular moment nothing could be worse. This applies to any administration, whether Republican or Democratic. Anything that hurts the morale, the effectiveness, the ability to reach independent decisions of the armed forces in a period like the present, is bound to bring joy to the hearts of our enemies. That is why there is much worry and con-

cern in Washington and elsewhere about the following.

First, presumably basing its action on a report from a 'liberal' senator, the Defense Department issued a directive to military officers. It is a very strange directive because it applies only to officers who are called conservative or right-wing. It tells them they must button up their lips and quit publicly expounding their views. Some of these officers have been talking about the threat to American institutions from

ried subversion and infiltration, pointing to softness on communism, to measures advocated by well-meaning dogooders which are in reality the essence of socialism, and to the fact that socialism is a way-station on the road to communism. Under the new directive, all this must stop.

There are two peculiar things about the order. In the name of plain common sense, who should be more concerned about the communist menace than our military officers who must get the understanding and backing of all military personnel and of the people, if they should ever have to fight the menace with armed might? But even assuming these officers should keep their views to themselves, why is no such directive issues to officers who may be

in agreement with the so-called 'liberal' aims of the New Frontier? These latter, evidently, are free to talk their heads off, but conservative, anti-communist officers must shut up.

Second, Walter Trohan, head of the Washington bureau of the *Chicago Tribune*, reports that morale in the Defense Department has 'sagged dangerously' of late. This stems directly from the President, who has been bypassing the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Mr. Trohan says 'President Kennedy and his platoons of bright young theorists have little use for the high command' and the effect is undermining of morale 'from the top brass down to the raw recruits in all the services.' No wonder it is asked: What are we trying to do -commit suicide?

"SOLUTION" FOR BERLIN

Speaking of suicide, the appeasers and the scary-cats we have always with us. You may or may not have noticed a recent full-page advertisement in some of our newspapers by the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy. It calls itself SANE for short, but every time we see the name it brings up visions not

of sanity and probity but of the characters in Allen Drury's book *Advise and Consent* who would 'rather crawl on their bellies to Moscow than die under an atom bomb.' We are not accusing the members of the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy of wanting to crawl to Moscow - that is just the picture their

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Published every week by America's Future, Inc., 542 Main Street, New Rochelle, New York. A non-profit, educational organization.

R. K. Scott Publisher
Rosalie M. Gordon Editor
John C. Wetzel Business Manager

Subscription Price: \$5 per year, \$12 for three years. Ten week trial subscription \$1. Additional copies of specific issues: 1 copy for 15¢; 10 copies for \$1; 50 for \$4; 100 for \$6; 1,000 for \$30 — each price for bulk mailing to one person.

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proposals, willy-nilly, flash in our minds. Some of the Committee's sympathizers are genuinely horrified by the thought of nuclear war; others have more sinister axes to grind. But none of them apparently has learned that the best prevention of nuclear war is for Khrushchev to understand completely that that is just what he risks if he carries out his threats — that the West intends to stand firm and strong on its rights. All past experience has proved that once the Reds know we mean what we say, they back down. Seemingly, this Committee, to say nothing of certain U.S. leaders, cannot understand that the risk of war is much greater for

Khrushchev —with his restless slaves whom he cannot even feed adequately —than it is for us.

In any case, this Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy (which incidentally stands for banning all nuclear weapons which of course means stripping our defenses) has a solution for the Berlin problem. Guess what it is. They want us to turn the whole issue over to the tender mercies of the United Nations! And they have what they call a 'constructive' proposal for us to offer for the consideration of all the communist, socialist and neutralist nations which make up the bulk of the membership of the UN. It consists in the establishment of an 'authority' for Berlin under the supervision of the United States, Britain, France and — you guessed it —Communist Russia. This so-called authority would then bring about the 'gradual unification of the administration of West and East Berlin.' That, of course, is gobbledegook for an administration of the city with Reds in its government. There are other proposals about access routes, withdrawing of armed forces from the city and replacing them with UN troops, and so on. It would

all operate under a guarantee of Berlin's neutrality by the United Nations, NATO and, believe it or not, the Warsaw Pact. The Warsaw Pact is a group of communist nations dominated by Soviet Russia.

But the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy is not satisfied with this big slice of appeasement-pie for the Reds. It adds another large chunk by proposing the total disarmament of all Germany, with withdrawal of all armed forces and their replacement by United Nations garrisons.

Here, once again, is that

strange and mysterious notion to which former Under Secretary of State Robert D. Murphy referred - the idea that it is possible to make a big package deal with a regime which is bent on world conquest. This is what Mr. Murphy called 'a fake, a delusion and a snare' - and the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy is doing its best to perpetuate it. It has been suggested that the Committee ought to change its name - that it should be called the Committee for an Insane Foreign Policy for America.

CRAZINESS VS. PATRIOTISM

AS to just how crazy we can get, two news items appearing almost simultaneously will give you some idea. The first one tells of the opening of a new production line at the Lenin Steel Works in Communist Poland. It is the only continuous steel-galvanizing line in the entire bloc of communist nations. The equipment was made in Pittsburgh and was paid for by the United States government with $2\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars of your money. The second item reports the delivery by Soviet Russia of 26 MIG fighter planes to Castro's Cuba. Would it not

be interesting to know how many more planes will go to a Red regime 90 miles from our shores - perhaps containing steel produced in Communist Poland on equipment paid for by the American people?

However, it looks as though individual Americans (at least some of them) are far ahead of their leaders in Washington in an understanding of the Red menace - and in plain old-fashioned American patriotism. Two companies in Seattle, Wash., recently turned down substantial orders for equipment to go to Red Russia. In the case of one of

them, the order would have represented 10 percent of their annual volume. The two companies are the Puget Sound Fabricators, Inc., and the Republic Electric and Development Co. Puget Sound Fabricators said that 'we believe that our cooperation would be little less than giving aid and comfort to an enemy who hopes to dominate our way of life, but somewhere, and this seems to be the point, we must be willing to be counted as thinking of our own country's

welfare before the dollar. Republic Electric and Development Co. said: 'The one advantage we in North America have over the communist bloc is our production know-how... to knowingly give away even the tiniest portion of that production superiority on our part would represent to us the admission of the inevitability of world domination by communism. To this we will never be a part.' Both companies deserve a great big Bravo!' from all good Americans.

Foregoing items covered in Mutual network broadcast 7/30/61

Book Review

FIRST-RATE MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE

OLD HOUSE OF FEAR by Russell Kirk, 256 pages, Fleet Publishing, N.Y., \$3.95.

Hugh Logan, a young American attorney, thought he was bound on an intriguing but more or less routine errand for his client. Old Duncan MacAskival, head of an iron works in Michigan, commissioned his legal counsel to see what he could do to buy an ancestral castle on a lonely Scottish isle. Old Duncan's inquiries to the proprietress of the Old House of Fear had brought only silence and then a cryptic, water-stained note. So Hugh Logan set forth on a

journey that would bring him great danger, adventure, a protagonist before whom lesser men cringed, and which would change Logan's life.

Reaching Carnglass, the site of the Old House, was no mean task in itself. And when Logan finally arrived, he found a besieged island in the hands of a mysterious Dr. Jackman and his queer band of cutthroats brought to the ancestral MacAskival home by a foolish old woman whom they now held under a strange spell. Hugh Logan also found Mary MacAskival, a spritely Scottish miss who had diverse

and wonderful ways of fighting the evil which had invaded her beloved Carnglass.

That's all we are going to tell you about the plot of Russell Kirk's novel of mystery and adventure. But be assured that Dr. Kirk, one of our leading conservative teachers and philosophers, is also a fine novelist. The characters of *OLD HOUSE OF FEAR* are thoroughly believable; Carnglass is modeled after a real Scottish isle which Dr. Kirk knows well; and the story he weaves amid its rugged, seaswept crags is worthy of the old masters.

If you are a mystery and adventure fan - and who isn't - but are sick unto death of the garbage which passes for story-telling these days (written in a so-called English that makes pidgin positively Shakespearean) this

novel in the classic manner is for you. And don't be scared off by that phrase 'classic manner.' We are only trying to inform you that Dr. Kirk knows how to handle our language with the loving care it deserves - and to tell a thrilling, suspenseful tale without resort to gutter talk and stomach-turning gore.

There is, in Hugh Logan's and Mary MacAskival's monumental struggle with Dr. Jackman, a modern allegory. The isle of Carnglass 'was the microcosm of modern existence' in which the forces of good and evil, freedom and slavery, fought their inevitable battle. But with or without the allegory, this is a first-rate story - as fine a summer's, or winter's, tale as you can come upon in many a modern day.

- *Rosalie Gordon*

WRONG PREMISE; WRONG REMEDY

"A favorite slogan of both the Republican and Democratic parties is that all that is necessary to defeat communism is for us to provide peoples in underdeveloped countries with enough to eat. Empty stomachs, we are told, are the breeding grounds of communism; a man who is reasonably well fed is unlikely to succumb to the Red virus.

"Raising high this shibboleth, both parties have called for bigger and bigger economic transfusions to foreign countries, including communist countries. Yet they have overlooked one thing - both their premise and their remedy are

wrong. Not only has our foreign economic aid never saved a nation from communism, but there is proof that in some cases it has actually hastened the subjugation of peoples suffering under communist rule...

"People do not become communists or non-communists in relation to the amount of food they have in their stomachs. Some of the richest nations in Europe - like Italy - have enormous numbers of communists, whereas in some of the poorest nations - like Ireland - communism is relatively non-existent. The same is true of individuals. Karl Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, Molotov, Mao Tse-tung, Chou En-lai, Tito, Castro, Alger Hiss, the Rosenbergs - all were from better-than-average families which had been spared the pangs of hunger and disease...

"We grossly underestimate communists when we believe they are converted only because of hunger pangs. The truth is, people embrace that fanatical doctrine in order to revamp the world. And if mass murders, espionage, and deceit are the best ways to fulfill that goal, then they must be used. The misdirected fire of revolution burns brightly in the breasts of communists. In order to extinguish that revolutionary flame, the free world must reassert - mainly through actions - its faith in the free enterprise system, and must let it be known that it will fight to preserve its heritage of freedom."

- Indianapolis (Ind.) STAR

"You have a republic, if you can keep it." - Benj. Franklin

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OUR CHOICE

"Put another way, it might be said that unless the government stops interfering with the business of its citizens, it will be unable - as it gradually dries up the springs of revenue - to conduct its own business of defending the nation against our enemies. Our choice, roughly, is to return to constitutional principles - or start studying Russian."

- Fort Pierre (S.D.) TIMES

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